REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 17 is Cancelled. Claims 1-16 are pending and under consideration.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that claims 1-16 are allowed.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 102

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,508,186 to Sashiki et al. and U.S. Patent No. 4,164,260 to Blodgett. Claim 17 is cancelled herewith which renders the rejections moot.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Nov. 20, 2007

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